



## What to do on A Level Results Day

### Stowe Contact Details

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### When are A Level results out?

A Level results day is usually the third Thursday in August.

- 16 August 2018
- 15 August 2019

### When do I get my results?

We will send out your results as early as possible on results day. We aim to get everything out well before UCAS and the universities open for business.

UCAS will receive your A Level results directly and update [Track](#) as they get responses in from the universities. This is typically around 8.00am. As the system's going to be busy with other students eager to find out if they've received offers, you may need to be patient.

While you can't add a **Clearing choice** using Track until 3.00pm on A Level results day (when the official Clearing list is displayed in the [UCAS search tool](#)), you may still want to find out your options as early as possible. By getting in touch directly with universities straight away, you can attempt to sort out invitations to add a course for when Track is updated with its Clearing option later in the day.

### What should I have to hand?

- Hardware
  - Phone
  - Access to the internet
  - Sufficient power for the above!
  - Notepad and pen
- Details
  - Your UCAS track number
  - Contact details for your firm and insurance choices
  - Details of your offers
  - If you have to go through Clearing
    - Universities' UCAS and Clearing numbers
    - Clearing app from *The Telegraph*, or a copy of the newspaper listing the places available through Clearing
    - Notes from having researched universities and courses beforehand, with a list of questions to ask course tutors
    - Your personal statement and GCSE results.

## What if I am on holiday?

### You can be - just don't be off the grid

This is especially important if you have a number of conditional offers and you think Clearing may be an option. If you do end up being away, you'll need to ensure that Track contains your correct contact details before you go.

### Nominated Access

You might opt to nominate someone, such as a parent or guardian, who can access Track and make changes on your behalf. It's important to remember that on results day the clock is always ticking so your nominee may need to discuss your application with UCAS or universities within a specific time-frame.

If you didn't nominate someone when filling in your application, it's best to speak to UCAS and ensure the person now has access to your Track. The nominated person will be able to collect the results from the school or college office - providing they arrive with a completed permissions slip. When you can't be there in person, but can get online, you can still log in to Track to find out what your chosen universities have decided.

## When will UCAS Track update?

UCAS Track is where you are kept informed of your application's progress; the UCAS site is the place to go on results day. However, Track is 'frozen' in the days leading up to the publication of your A Level results, meaning you won't be able to make any changes during this time. Contact UCAS directly if you need to update any of your information.

You can expect the system to be available again at around 8.00am on results day. After it's been updated, Track becomes 'frozen' so you shouldn't expect your page to change again until midday at the earliest.

It's worth waiting to log in after you've got your results, so you already have a good idea of whether you're likely to have been accepted by your choices and will be better prepared to deal with any disappointment.

## What will Track show?

If decisions have been made by your university choices, and UCAS have been notified, you can expect to see the following changes to offers on your Track page:

- **Unconditional** - your place on the course has been confirmed. This may be your firm or insurance offer, or both.
- **Unsuccessful** - you've not been accepted by your choice(s). You're now eligible to enter Clearing.
- **UCC (Unconditional Changed Course)** - you don't have the necessary grades for your offer, but the university has proposed a similar course requiring lower grades. They may also offer an alternative start date, for instance, deferred entry. You have five days to make a decision - you may use this time to speak to the university directly about what this opportunity involves.

Please be aware, your A Level results won't appear in Track.

### **What do I do if I meet my offer?**

If you're holding at least one conditional place and you've met the requirements, the offer will change to 'unconditional'. This firm acceptance is confirmed in Track and your UCAS confirmation letter AS12 will be sent out. Some universities require further action on your part - the AS12 will explain what you need to do if this is the case.

If you've used [UCAS Extra](#) to add another choice - and been offered a place - you just need to accept it by the date displayed in Track. There's also the option of adding another choice, should you wish to decline the offer.

### **What if I don't get the grades I need?**

Don't panic. There are a number of options open to you.

- **Appeal**

The first, if you've narrowly missed the grades by just a few marks, is to **talk to the university**. With places so competitive they're under no obligation to reconsider their decision, but if you can make a case, they may listen to you, especially if you plan to appeal any grades. You may even be offered a place on an alternative course. **The School cannot make this contact for you.**

- **Clearing**

On the other hand, you could simply accept the decision and aim to go through Clearing instead. See [university clearing](#) for more information on what to do next.

- **Reboot**

You could change your mind entirely, reject all offers and reapply next year. If so, you will have to contact UCAS and explain your decision. However, there are no comebacks from this and we urge that you do not make any hasty decisions you might later regret. Speak to the School before doing anything like this!

### **Can I get my results re-marked?**

Once the results have been announced, if your marks don't seem right and your university place is under threat, you can request a review of marking or moderation by the exam boards - see [GOV.UK's guide for regulating A Levels](#).

It's important to start the review process as soon as possible. This can only be done through your School or college, and it's recommended you keep the university informed of your plans, as there's a better chance they'll reserve the place for you. Be sure to send your results to your chosen university by 31 August.

**If a remark is critical to your application, you need to contact the Head of Department and [Ms Huxley Capurro](#) as a matter of urgency.**

Even if the review is successful, you may still not be given a place on your chosen course. In this instance, it's likely you'll be offered alternatives on similar courses or be able to defer your place until next year. That's why it's advisable to get their conditions in writing so you know where you stand.

## Can I defer my university place for a year?

You can ask your university to defer you for a year if you don't already hold a deferred offer. Technically speaking, this can be done up until the start date, but the earlier you tell them, the better. Be prepared to explain your reasons.

While many universities will agree to this, if they don't, you might wish to withdraw your application for this year and reapply when the process begins for the next student intake.

## What if I get better grades than expected?

- **Adjustment**

As Christina Edgar, Head of Student Recruitment and Admissions at The University of Sheffield, says - if you'd known that you'd have done this well, would you still have chosen the same course and university as your firm choice?

For most students, the answer will still be an emphatic 'yes'. But if now you're not so sure, then it's time look at Adjustment, which gives you the option of choosing an alternative course requiring higher grades.

To use Adjustment, you simply need to have met and exceeded the terms of the conditional offer from your firm choice. 'It's like a special version of Clearing that lets you shop around for your ideal course while keeping your current choice safe,' Christina explains.

Available from A Level results day until 31 August, you can have a look and see whether there's anything that interests you, while you have your original unconditional firm choice to fall back on. However, you're under no obligation to reconsider what you've already chosen. 'Remember, it has to be your decision - don't be pressured by anyone else,' says Christina.

But if you decide that you would like to change where and what you're studying, you'll need to register this in Track. As many competitive courses may now be full, you'll have to search the vacancies to see what's left.

To discuss course vacancies you're interested in, contact the university admissions office directly. You can only verbally agree on one course choice, which will then appear on Track. Once you've confirmed this offer through the UCAS service, you'll lose your original choice in place of this new course/university.

If you only applied for one course in your original application (at the reduced rate of £13.00), you'll need to pay the extra £11.00 fee to be eligible to apply for another course.

Adjustment can only be used during five 24 hour periods (which includes weekends), unless there are less than five days to go until 31 August. This period begins from when your conditional firm offer becomes an unconditional firm offer, or on A Level results day - whichever is the later.

Visit the [UCAS](#) website for full instructions on how Adjustment works. To secure your student loan following Adjustment, follow the advice on our [Clearing](#) page.

*adapted from [What to do on results day](#), [prospect.ac.uk](#)*